

The Times' Daily Short Story.

THE OLD BEECH TREE

(Original.)

Hayward Cook sat in his office in the city reading a proposition to buy the old homestead of his family. Fifteen years before he had left it, a large brick house standing in a four acre lot about five miles from what had since become a great city. A suburb had been established taking in his property, and he had had offers for it from time to time, which he had declined, but now an offer had come so far beyond the rest that he considered it worth while to go and look into it. Taking a train, he went to the city near which his property was located and on alighting at a station that had taken the place of the frame one he had known as a boy turned a corner to find the omnibus that used to take passengers in the direction he wished to go. Instead he found trolley cars, a car starting every few minutes instead of the twice a day trips formerly made by the omnibus. Entering a car, in half an hour he was at Ridgewood, the name given to the suburb he sought, and alighted at a real estate office. The agent met him at the door and began an effort to induce him to part with his property.

"I don't want to sell the old place," said Cook. "I've always thought that when I got through with my present business I'd come back and enjoy my quiet home."

"Home?" said the agent. "You wouldn't want to live in a house with trolley cars running by it all day and all night, a hospital backing up against you and a noisy school on the opposite corner?"

This staggered the owner, and he said he would go and have a look for himself. The agent offered to drive him there, but he declined. The truth is he had decided to have a witness present when he inspected the house and grounds where he had spent a happy youth. He started alone and on foot and found the place just as it had been described. There was the familiar house dimly with age and the grounds full of saplings that had grown up about the roots of the larger trees. The summer house was falling to pieces, and the well house had entirely disappeared. He entered the former and stood among the ruins. On that seat now rotten and partly fallen he had sat beside Lucy Dean the evening before he went away and told her that some day he would come back a rich man and they would be married. Lucy had long been put in the back ground, while he had been engaged in a fierce struggle to make himself rich. He turned away from this corpse of his former home, resolved that he would sell it. There was or had been a wood about half a mile up what had been the road—it was now the street—

near where Lucy had lived and in which they had often played as children. He well remembered that he had cut his name and Lucy's on the bark of a beech tree there, and he wondered if any trace of it was left. The suburb had not yet taken in the wood, though there were several houses built on the street at different parts of it. Cook looked about for landmarks that would point to the tree he sought and finally found it in the back yard of one of the houses. Climbing a fence, he entered the ground and went to its base. Looking up, he could faintly distinguish his initials and those of Lucy Dean cut eighteen years ago.

In a moment the busy life that had formed through years a barrier between him and his little home seemed to him like a mist borne away on the wings of the wind.

A colored servant came out of the house, and he called to her. She approached, and he said:

"I wonder if your master would sell this tree?"

"I only got a mistress, an' she won't sell dat tree fo' sartin, sure!"

"Why not?"

"My mistress had a lover when she was a little gal—an' 'count fella', I reckon. He cut his an' her letters ob de names on de bark ob dat tree. When he went away he promised to come back to her, an' he ha'n't nebbor come. Don't tink he wofft frettin' 'bout."

Cook stood looking at her stupidly for awhile, then he asked:

"Is your mistress at home?"

"Yas, but it won't do no good to try to buy dat tree. She won't sell it to nobody."

Cook gained an entrance to the house, where he was received by a woman of thirty-three or thirty-four who had not yet parted with all the freshness of youth.

"I would like to buy that tree in your yard with some letters cut on it," he said. "Your maid has informed me that you prize it though the man who made it a treasure to you has proved unworthy. He promised you in the summer house of his father's place that when he had made his fortune he would come back and claim you. Well, he has been about a long while, but he has come at last. Lucy, do you know me?"

She stood with her eyes fixed on him in a stare for some moments after he had spoken the last words, then turned with bent head. Cook went to her and took her hand and put an arm about her waist.

The Cook homestead was sold for a fortune in itself. Indeed, though Hayward Cook had struggled hard he had not amassed a fortune. The increased value of the homestead land, however, gave him a sufficiency, and he built a home near the city of his adoption, and after its completion he brought Lucy Dean as his wife to occupy it. In a summer house on the place is a section of a beech tree which serves for a bench.

ALICE CHEEVER.

APRIL'S DAY.

It falls on Sabbath day this year,
So, ministers, beware,
And guard with diligence and fear
The goodly bishop's chair.

The small boy with his pin, you see,
If not watched closely may
Disturb the bishop's piety
For Sunday's All Fools' Day.

The joker's bound to have his fling,
So men who pass the plate,
Watch closely for the slender string—
Remember well the date.

For 'twould embarrass you, I say,
And be against the rule,
If some should draw their bills away
And whisper, "April Fool."

The trouzera button will be passed,
Since jokes are all the rage;
And also bills that we have passed
As money of the stage.

For All Fools' Day we must observe,
It is our duty to play;
And congregations will deserve
Close watch upon that day.

—Detroit Free Press.

His Rehearsal.

A fertile-minded agent, now one of the widest known life insurance agents in the country, was trying to sell a client a policy on which the agent's share of the first premium was \$15.00. The client desired the policy, but he wanted a rebate of \$1,000, and this the agent was willing to give. The agent was casting about in his mind for some method of hiding the rebate, when the client said they were in the client's office—came to him, and he said, "What a beautiful agent you are!" He explained gravely, "My wife loves you. She'd be tickled to death to have that one I'll give you \$1,000 for it."

The client assented, and the policy was taken. Receipts were exchanged, the client engaged in the waste basket and wrapped up, and the agent went away with a heavy heart, and no rebate law could touch him—World's Work.

The Inevitable Victor

in the war against
coughs and colds is
Hale's Honey of
Horehound and
Tar. Pleasant to
take and always
reliable.

Sold by all druggists.

Pike's Toothache Drops
Cure in One Minute.

A well groomed woman

is one who bathes regularly and uses a pure soap and plenty of hot water at night before going to bed. Nine out of ten well groomed women will tell you that they use

SPIM SOAP

Neither sun nor wind have any injurious effect on the skin where SPIM Soap and SPIM Ointment-Cream, the splendid toilet triumphs of the century, are used. SPIM Soap does not leave the face shiny and oily as other soaps do.

Spim Soap, 25c. Spim Ointment-Cream, 50c. Of your grocer or druggist or postpaid by mail. If not satisfied for any reason, your money back. The Spim goods are guaranteed by Chas. B. Knox, maker of

KNOX'S CELATINE
the purest and best gelatine in the world.

Sold by all first-class grocers. Send a postal for free booklet, "What the Spim Soap and Ointment-Cream will do for you." SPIM CO. (Chas. B. Knox, Sole Proprietor) Johnston, N.H.

For Sale by Sowden & Lyon, Barre, Vt.

IS ADMITTED BY HILL.

Rumor of New Pacific Line in Canada Now Confirmed.

St. Paul, Minn., April 5.—Vice President L. W. Hill of the Great Northern admitted Tuesday that the report that the company would build a transcontinental line across Canada was approximately correct.

Mr. Hill denied that the Great Northern has large interests in the Canadian Lake Superior as far west as Edmonton, and also that the Canadian Northern will form a part of his company's projected line to the Pacific.

"The only interest we have in the Canadian Northern," said he, "is that we lease its lines from the boundary up to Winnipeg. But we have already secured our own terminals in Winnipeg and we shall soon build a Winnipeg line of our own. Then we shall be entirely independent of the Canadian Northern."

Mr. Hill agreed that the new transcontinental line would probably be completed some time before the Grand Trunk Pacific is built through to the coast.

"Our line," he said, "includes only 500 or 600 miles that are still to be constructed west of Winnipeg. The Grand Trunk Pacific has done nothing yet in that section. It has been stated that the Grand Trunk must take four or five years to finish their line, but we could complete ours within two or at any rate within three years."

President Hill has from 3,000 to 4,000 men now working on the lines under construction, and he has several parties surveying the routes of the lines that are to be begun. All this is in addition to a number of short lines that are now ready to operate.

A contractor for the Great Northern who has 1,000 miles of grade to construct, says that the road will be completed to the coast from Winnipeg within 18 months, and believes the line from the east will be finished to Winnipeg before that time. He says he has never before known such rush orders to complete work, regardless of cost.

JEROME WILL PRESENT EVIDENCE BY COMPANIES.

Preparing for Special Grand Jury, But May "Give Up" to the Present Body.

New York, April 5.—Dist. Atty. Jerome has had to alter his plan of dealing with instances of insurance wrongdoing. He has decided to present his evidence by companies. That this evidence has gone contrary to the scheme he had laid out plainly disturbs Mr. Jerome.

To criticisms passed upon him to the effect that he had taken as his first test the diversion of money for politics, the criminality of intent in which might be debatable instead of the plainer case of the use of corporate money for personal enrichment, through "participation" deals, his friends and associates answered only that such cases would come later.

He has been brought to the point where he will give to the April grand jury, if it takes Recorder Goff's suggestion and asks for it, the evidence in whole relating to "moral" obliquities. But his evident hope still is that the jury will first take up the cases of the 100 men who are waiting in the Tombs for a disposition of the charges against them.

Mr. Jerome's office is proceeding to prepare the insurance evidence for the special May grand jury meantime. If asked for by the present body, it is expected the reply might be that it is not yet ready.

Run Charge Stirr Divines.

New York, April 5.—The charge that the literature is being printed by the Methodist book concern, made by the Typographical Union, is likely to cause a breeze in the fifty-eighth annual session of the New York East conference of the Methodist Episcopal church, opened by Bishop McCabe yesterday. The charge is brought in connection with the printers' strike.

Plot Fakir to Sing Sing.

New York, April 5.—Larry Rogers, who recently told the district attorney the false story about a plot to assassinate the Rev. Charles H. Parkhurst, the clergyman of reform leader, was yesterday sentenced to seven years and six months' imprisonment in Sing Sing.

A Skin of Beauty is a Joy Forever.

DR. T. Felix Goursaud's Oriental Cream or Medical Beautifier.

Removes Tan, Pimples, Freckles, and every blemish on beauty, and restores complexion. It has stood the test of 40 years, and is no longer a secret. It is the most perfect skin treatment ever devised. It is sold by all druggists and beauticians. Price 25c. per box. Write for free booklet to Dr. T. Felix Goursaud, 37 West 4th St., New York.

GIVES TIPS ON FARMING

Farmers "Special" Over Boston & Maine R. R.

MAKES BIG HIT

Agriculturists in Satisfactory Start to Scatter Truth—Talks by the Professors—Illustrate Their Points by Outfit.

Greenfield, Mass., April 5.—Hundreds of New England farmers were abandoned yesterday, while the owners, their hired men, wives and children drove or walked to the nearest Boston & Maine Railroad station to meet the "better farming" special train, which started from Mount Hermon yesterday morning. They will go back home to try for themselves the experiments which Director William P. Brooks and his assistants from the Massachusetts Agricultural College at Amherst are giving them.

The weather was so fine that even the new ideas sown in the heads of these farmers began to sprout before they got home, and fairly lift their hats off their heads.

At Amherst, where the train was made up and equipped, and at Mount Hermon and Barnardston, where it stopped yesterday morning, between 200 and 300 farmers inspected the cars and listened to the lectures.

One accident has marred the trip. Isaac B. Snow, of Chicago, Western manager for the Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company, owns a farm at Barnardston. Being there for a brief visit, he drove down to see the special. His horses took fright as they approached the train and bolted, throwing Mr. Snow to the ground. He received a severe shock, possibly concussion of the brain. It is said, however, that he has a good chance of recovery. Mr. Snow is about as well known throughout this region for his interest in agriculture as he is in Western insurance circles.

"I'm trying to drive home the few ideas I do give, and set them thinking and reading and experimenting for themselves," said Director Brooks. His talks are examples of wit in more than their brevity. They are concrete—more potatoes than philosophy.

"Use phosphate for your turnips, potash for your corn," that's his gospel. "Look on fertilizers as a means of helping out a short supply of manure. Make what you have go as far as you can."

"High priced fertilizers are generally the cheapest. What you want is to get not the greatest quantity of the stuff but the most plain food for your money. The low grade stuff has fillers in it. Don't pay for that. You have enough filler right there on your farms."

"This is a mighty good thing," said one man to his neighbor. "Then fertilizer companies been beatin' it right along. We got to find out how to stop it."

"The way to stop it," said Mr. Brooks, "is for each farmer to have his own little experiment station. Spread different grades of stuff over a rod of two of ground, and having planted seed, compare results. You'll see it, plain as the nose on your face. Where your ground brings forth ten bushels of corn, try potash and you'll get forty-seven bushels. After that, when you seed you'll get splendid clover."

"That's so," cried an old graybeard from the other end of the car. "I tried ashes on potatoes. No good, but when I seeded down you could see the way the clover bunched up right where them rows had been."

After each talk anybody was at liberty to ask questions. The professor had told his auditors to use lime to sweeten their sour ground.

"Ain't there some danger of getting too much lime on?" asked one.

"Not when you have to pay for it yourself," was the answer.

That brought down the car.

A few stragglers came down to the station to scold.

"By gum, these college fellows may know how to raise stuff indoors, but they can't teach me nothin' about raising outdoors."

So the many talked when Noah was building the Ark, but this time the crowd is inside, where Prof. Snow is telling them how to flood their barns with a plenteous harvest.

FAST TRAIN WRECKED.

Norfolk, Va., April 5.—A serious wreck occurred on the Norfolk & Western Railroad between Suffolk and Norfolk at 11 o'clock yesterday morning when the "Cannon Ball" flyer, running between Richmond and Norfolk, ran through an open switch.

According to meagre reports, the train was completely wrecked. The wreckage took fire and the train, consisting of a baggage and mail car and two passenger cars, was burned up.

Wrecking trains were sent from Norfolk and Suffolk, all carrying physicians and large wrecking crews.

Norfolk & Western Railway officers deny that any were killed in the wreck, and say that only three passengers and the engineer were slightly injured.

PLAN NEW MASSACRES.

Eastern Killing of Jews on a Large Scale Threatened.

New York, April 5.—The Evening Sun has the following cable from Cologne: A dispatch to the Cologne Gazette from St. Petersburg says that the police there are in possession of letters which show that a massacre of Jews on a large scale is planned for Easter.

Troops now occupy the Jewish quarters.

BOYS It's easy Money



Thousands of boys all over this country, who never had much money to call their own, are happy now at the merry jingle of cash in their pockets, made by selling

THE SATURDAY EVENING POST

Friday afternoons and Saturdays. They have no better chances, they are no brighter than you. It's just this—instead of dreaming about the good times to come, they get right down to business and hustled for what they want. You can do the same. Don't lose any time about it. Write a letter to day asking us to send you our handsome booklet about boys who make money, also the complete outfit for starting in business. With this will come ten free copies of The Post, which you can sell at 5c each. After this you buy as many copies as you need at wholesale prices. As an inducement to do good work we give, among other prizes, watches, sweaters, etc., to boys who sell a certain number of copies. And in addition \$250 in Extra Cash Prizes

EACH MONTH

THE CURTIS PUBLISHING COMPANY
425 Arch Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

AIMED AT "MUTUALS."

New York Senate Passes the Smith Insurance Bill.

Albany, N. Y., April 5.—The Senate yesterday passed the Smith bill amending the insurance law, regulating and taxing mutual fire insurance companies, and to prohibit the insuring of property located in this state in unauthorized companies.

The bill is aimed against the so-called New England mutuals, organized under Massachusetts and Rhode Island laws. The proceeds of the taxation go to the volunteer firemen of the state.

The bill had been lost at four or five previous sessions.

DECLINES RE-ELECTION.

Depew Will Not Again Serve in the Yale Corporation.

New Haven, Conn., April 5.—The declaration of Senator Depew to stand for re-election to the Yale corporation was announced yesterday from the office of the secretary of the university, as follows:

"Mr. C. M. Depew has declined to be a candidate for re-election to the Yale corporation. Official notice of this fact will be sent to the graduates in the regular circular issued from the secretary's office about May 1."

ONTARIO HOLDS MINES.

The Gillies Limit Is Not Open for Prospectors.

Toronto, April 5.—Premier Whitney announces that the Gillies Limit, just south of Cobalt, a rich silver deposit, about three and a half miles square, will not be opened to prospectors, but will be retained by the Ontario government and worked by a commission for the benefit of the people.

MEMORIAL TO MISS ANTHONY.

Women Have Decided to Have One in Washington.

Toledo, Ohio, April 5.—The national Council of Women has decided on a permanent memorial to Susan B. Anthony in Washington.

Tacoma Rejects M. O. Issue.

Tacoma, Wash., April 5.—Mayor Geo. V. Wright, Democrat, was elected Tuesday by about 200 plurality over O. E. McCormick, Republican, and John P. Hartman, the Municipal Ownership candidate.

Longest Test Strongest Testimony

THE SUREST CURE for Rheumatism, Liver Complaint, Indigestion, Constipation, Sick Headache, Neuralgia, Giddiness, Malaria, Heartburn, Flatulence, Jaundice, etc.

SCHENCK'S MANDRAKE PILLS

Over seventy years' use has proved their merit.

Then the Liver.

Absolutely Harmless. For sale everywhere. 25 cents a box or by mail.

Dr. J. H. Schenck & Son, Phila., Pa.

VICTORY FOR RADICALS

They Elect All Delegates In St. Petersburg

A WORKING MAJORITY

Calls for Massacre Are Terrifying the Orel Jews—Russia Refuses to Open Harbin to General Trade.

St. Petersburg, April 5.—The official canvass of the votes cast at the election on Monday, owing to the unexpectedly heavy vote and the inexperience of the officials, had not been completed at midnight, but it is conceded that the Radical side has swept to victory every one of the 160 constitutional Democratic electors. The constitutional Democrats are naturally jubilant, as the sweeping triumph they have won at the capital, the headquarters of the bureaucracy, is bound to have a strong effect on the country at large. They are now looking forward to a working majority in the national parliament. They have already nominated a candidate for the presidency of the lower house in the person of M. Petrunkevitch of Tver, who is regarded as one of the most able and vigorous advocates of a constitutional government for the empire. The count in the admiralty ward, the most aristocratic in the city, was completed at six o'clock Tuesday night. The constitutional Democratic ticket won, receiving an average of 1,500 votes against 500 for M. Kulier, a former minister of agriculture who headed the opposition ticket. M. Petrovitsky, a Pole, received the lowest vote on the ticket of the constitutional Democrats, showing that the agitation against non-Russians has not been without effect. It was remarked that neither Premier Witte nor Secretary of the Interior Durnovo voted.

The result in the large cities was in almost all cases similar to that in St. Petersburg. Elsewhere conservative land owners were largely elected, owing to the fact that the community, as a rule, abstained from voting. The peasant electors, whose programme is solely the distribution of the public lands among the peasants, are not co-operating with the other parties.

The Russian Government, Premier Witte's newspaper organ, which admits the victory of the constitutional Democrats, attributes it to the vacillation of the Conservative faction and the interference of its organs. The paper also declares that Count Witte will hold on to the premiership until the convocation of the parliament, and that his resignation then will depend on the attitude of Emperor Nicholas. There is an intimation that no matter what may be the political complexion of the parliament, nobody who does not possess the fullest confidence of his majesty will be selected as premier.

Orel Jews Fear Massacre.

There is a veritable panic among the Jews of Orel on account of the free circulation of proclamations apparently printed in government printing offices, which incite to anti-Semitic outbreaks. The authorities, which have discovered the proclamations, are taking the strongest measures to prevent disorders.

Against Georgian "Pacification."

General Staroselski, former governor of Nakhichevan, who was dismissed from the service for sympathy with the revolutionists, has followed up the appeal of M. Bolokovskiy, a prominent Georgian writer, to Russia women in behalf of the women of his own race, who, he says, are being ruthlessly outraged by the brutal soldiers, with an open demand that the government investigate and prosecute General Aikhanoff, commander of the Russian forces in Transcaucasia, whose barbarous "pacification" of the Kutais provinces, General Staroselski says, means fire, murder and violations which he declares are a blot on humanity.

By order of General Romanenkoff, governor general of Transcaucasia, General Kolchevskiy has been arrested and will be tried by court martial for receiving a denunciation of railroad operatives during the recent railway strike. General Kolchevskiy already has been dismissed from the army. The specific charge on which he has now been arrested is recognizing a revolutionary government.

RUSSIAN BANKER A SUICIDE.

Lottery Bond Promoter Hangs Himself—Ruined by Speculation.

St. Petersburg, April 5.—The body of Heinrich Block, a banker, was discovered at his residence yesterday, where he had hanged himself.

Block first introduced into Russia on a large scale the American method of advertising. He was engaged principally in the sale of lottery bonds on the installment plan, his own fortune having been based on his luck in drawing a capital prize of \$130,000. In every city and town in Russia his name was painted in large letters on the dead walls of buildings.

It is intimated that Block was heavily involved on the stock market, and that the investigation into his death will bring to light a big bankruptcy.

RUSSIA WANTS HARBIN CLOSED.

Japanese Provision for Admitting General Trade.

Peking, April 5.—Troops of Russia's Manchurian army are being kept in force along the northern border of China's territory and at Vladivostok. The Russian government refuses to recognize the clause of the Japanese-Chinese treaty providing for the opening of Harbin to international trade.

RIDE COST MONTH'S TIME.

What Three Men Pay for Transportation from Burlington to Rutland.

Rutland, April 5.—Jack Doyle, William Brown, and Patrick McGowan were fined \$5 and costs each yesterday for stealing a ride from Burlington to this city on a lower yesterday morning.

All went to the house of correction for a month in default of payment. Doyle says he is a ball player.

DO YOU KNOW

That Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription is the only medicine sold through druggists for women's weakness and peculiar ailments that does not contain large quantities of alcohol? It is also the only medicine, especially prepared for the cure of the delicate diseases peculiar to women, the maker of which is not afraid to take his patients into his full confidence, by printing upon each wrapper a transparent illustration of the ingredients entering into the medicine. Ask your druggist if this is not true.

"Favorite Prescription," too, is the only medicine for women of the ingredients of which have the unqualified endorsement of the leading medical writers of the several schools of practice, recommending them for the cure of the diseases for which the "Prescription" is advised.

Write to Dr. R. V. Pierce, Buffalo, N. Y., for a free booklet, and read the numerous articles from standard medical authorities praising the several ingredients of which Dr. Pierce's medicines are made, and don't forget that no other medicine put up in such a transparent wrapper as this one can show a purer and more efficacious remedy.

Of this, itself, is of far more weight and importance than any amount of commendation from the public, or conspicuously flaunted before the public, in favor of the alcoholic compounds.

The "Favorite Prescription" cures all women's peculiar weaknesses and derangements, such as banishing the periodical headaches, backaches, bearing-down sensations in lower abdomen, accompanied by weakness and disagreeable catarrhs, pelvic drains and kindred symptoms.

Dr. Pierce and his staff of skilled specialists may be consulted free by addressing as above. All correspondence is treated as sacredly confidential. By consulting in this way the disagreeable questionings and personal examinations are avoided.

The People's Common Sense Medical Adviser contains some very interesting and valuable chapters on the diseases peculiar to women, and contains over one thousand pages. It is sent post paid, on receipt of sufficient in one-cent stamps to pay cost of mailing only, or 25 cents for a copy in flexible paper covers, or 50 cents for a cloth-bound copy. Address Dr. R. V. Pierce as above.

Dr. Pierce's Pellets regulate and invigorate the stomach, bowels, and bladder. One a laxative, two or three a cathartic.

STOLE IN HIS SLEEP.

Dual Personality to Explain Acts of a Jersey Youth.

New York, April 5.—Edwin Moyle, 17 years old, son of respectable parents in Jersey City, the police believe, shows a remarkable case of dual personality. In his normal state Edwin is modest and well behaved. In the abnormal state, according to his confession, he has stolen much valuable jewelry and thrown it away.

By order of the court a doctor is to examine his mental condition. In the meantime he is out on parole.

The Moyle family live in a fashionable neighborhood in which there have been many robberies. Detective Sergeant Gallagher got descriptions of the thief from several persons who had fleeting glimpses of him. All fitted young Moyle.

But the detective learned that the boy was studious and of orderly habits and was a regular attendant at a business college. Gallagher on more evidence arrested Moyle on the street.

"I'll tell you all about this stealing business," said young Moyle to the detective and Chief Murphy. "Whenever I robbed a place I was unconscious. I mean to say I didn't know what I was doing or how I did it."